REDWATER RECREATION GROUNDS

MASTER PLAN

EDMONTON METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

JUNE, 1989

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Overview

PART I

REDWATER RECREATION GROUNDS - DEVELOPMENT PLAN

I. OVERVIEW

1.0 Introduction

In July of 1988, the Town of Redwater requested assistance from the Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission in the preparation of a comprehensive design for the Redwater Recreation Grounds. This project was undertaken for the Town as part of Commission's ongoing planning advisory programme for member municipalities.

The Redwater Recreation Grounds is a large multi-purpose facility situated on approximately fifty acres of land which is located one half mile south-west of the Town. This area has been developed and improved for the enjoyment of residents and visitors through the co-operation and assistance of various public and civic groups, organizations and individuals.

At the present time a number of facilities have been developed to accommodate several different activities - 3 baseball/fastball diamonds, a horse racing track, rodeo grounds, picnic area with a shelter, automobile demolition race track, two concession/storage buildings, and an open midway area. It is the intention of the Town, in co-operation with other agencies and organizations, to further improve and develop the site.

2.0 Goal and Objective

Goal:

- To develop a comprehensive park design in order to improve the functional ability and to enhance its visual appeal so that all users may better pursue and enjoy their leisure activities.

Objectives:

- To integrate existing features and facilities within an overall design.
- To maximize the potential of the site through an orderly association of functions, spaces, and activities.
- To develop a plan which will accommodate/provide for additional areas and facilities to meet future recreation needs and demands.
- To provide a circulation and parking scheme which will ensure safe, convenient and efficient vehicular and pedestrian movement.
- To develop a landscape design concept which will provide identity to the different use areas but also act as a unifying site element.

3.0 Design and Development Concept

Background

To date there has been a considerable amount of capital funding allocated to the development of permanent facilities in the park. These facilities have been located and constructed without a comprehensive site plan and this has created some conflicts and inconsistencies among the various site uses. Also, in the absence of a overall plan, further difficulties will be encountered in meeting future requirements and demands.

Because of the extent of the present development, it is unrealistic and impractical to consider a design solution without regard to the existing situation. It is necessary to evaluate the current conditions with respect to an overall intent and then harmonize the various elements so that the best use is made of available resources.

Programme of Use

The recreation grounds are composed of a number of smaller component elements:

(a) the horse racing track/rodeo grounds/demolition oval - this multi-functional facility is situated in the western part of the site and occupies approximately twenty-five percent of the land area.

(b) the baseball/fastball area - this activity space is centrally located and presently accommodates three diamonds; provision is to be made within the design for the addition of another field.

(c) the campground/day use area - this use is situated in the eastern part of the site and presently comprises a picnic shelter surrounded by a large, open area; it is intended to expand its use and function to include campground facilities and a number of activity spaces.

(d) the midway area - this is a temporary/high intensity use area which requires a large tract of open land for its operation; a similar type of space is required to accommodate this activity in the future.

(e) the social recreation area - this requires a central location as it will serve as the primary concession outlet for the park as well as being the focus for a number of passive recreation pursuits; these activities are interrelated and should be integrated in a common location.

Although these individual activity areas have differing needs and requirements, they all form part of the greater recreational function of the site. Thus, the smaller use areas must not only be functional and attractive in themselves but they must also be related and integrated with each other at the large site scale in order to create a facility which is operative, enjoyable and safe.

Circulation and Parking

A major component of the design will be the circulation and parking system because of the nature of the various activities, the size of the site and its location outside of the Town. Vehicular access to the grounds, the various activity centres and parking lots should be safe, efficient and designed with minimal disruption. The circulation system should service the various sectors of the site and also act as an unifying element.

In order to facilitate vehicular movement and storage, the intent is to build upon and improve the existing peripheral circulation design. Roadways toward the outside of the site should provide ready access to the various major use areas. This will allow for the concentration of activities and the creation of a pedestrian environment in the centre of the park.

Parking should be located in close proximity to the roadways and distributed to serve all activity areas. It should be very visible, readily accessible and designed for easy entry and departure. Initially the parking areas should be able to accommodate 200-250 vehicles however, provision for future expansion should also be taken into account.

Landscaping

The pattern and location of vegetative material performs a number of important functions in enhancing the park:

(a) aesthetic improvement - creates a visually attractive and pleasing setting;

(b) climatic amelioration - provides areas of sun, shade, wind protection, modification of micro-climates;

(c) space definition - delimits the entire site while also bounding the component activity areas;

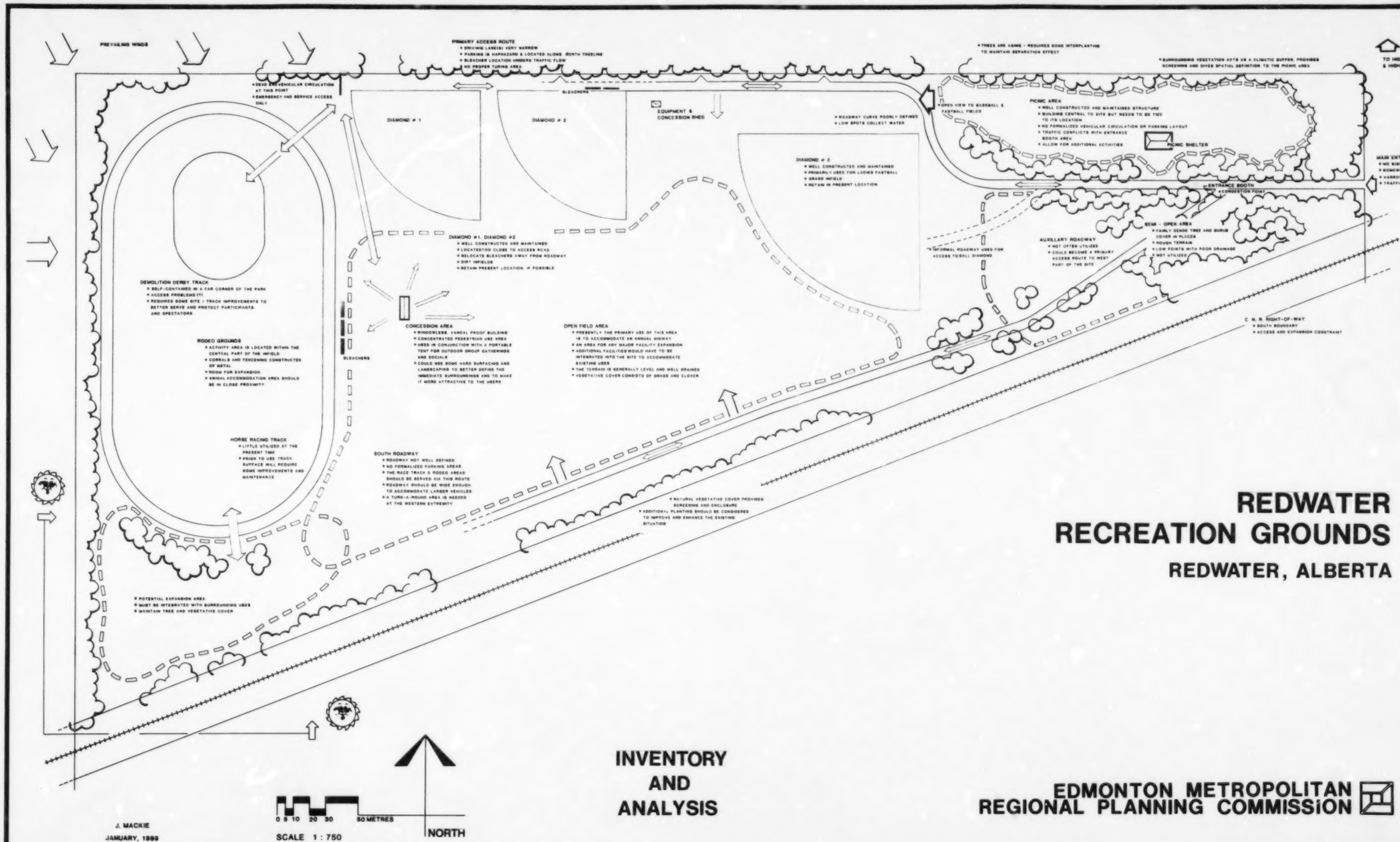
(d) screening - reduces impact of various activities upon each other by separating and buffering them;

(e) integration - provides a high impact visual and physical element which will help to unify the site and its uses.

The addition of plant material to the site is an important part in the successful development of the recreation grounds.

Site Design

PART II


PREVAILING WINDS
PRIMARY ACCESS ROUTE
• DRIVING LANE(S) VERY NARROW
• PARKING IS HAPHAZARD & LOCATED ALONG NORTH TREELINE
• BLEACHER LOCATION HINDERS TRAFFIC FLOW
• NO PROPER TURNING AREA
• TREES ARE ASHES - REQUIRES SOME INTERPLANTING TO MAINTAIN SEPARATION EFFECT
• SURROUNDING VEGETATION ACTS AS A CLIMATIC BUFFER, PROVIDES SCREENING AND GIVES SPATIAL DEFINITION TO THE PICNIC AREA
TO HIGHWAY 38 & HIGHWAY 28
• DEAD END VEHICULAR CIRCULATION AT THIS POINT
• EMERGENCY AND SERVICE ACCESS ONLY
BLEACHERS
DIAMOND # 1
DIAMOND # 2
EQUIPMENT & CONCESSION SHED
• ROADWAY CURVE POORLY DEFINED
• LOW SPOTS COLLECT WATER
PICNIC AREA
• WELL CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED STRUCTURE
• BUILDING CENTRAL TO SITE BUT NEEDS TO BE TIED TO ITS LOCATION
• NO FORMALIZED VEHICULAR CIRCULATION OR PARKING LAYOUT
• TRAFFIC CONFLICTS WITH ENTRANCE BOOTH AREA
• ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES
• OPEN VIEW TO BASEBALL & FASTBALL FIELDS
PICNIC SHELTER
DIAMOND # 3
• WELL CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED
• PRIMARILY USED FOR LADIES FASTBALL
• GRASS INFIELD
• RETAIN IN PRESENT LOCATION
MAIN ENTRANCE
• NO SIGNAGE
• SOMEWHAT HIDDEN
• NARROW ENTRANCE
• TRAFFIC BACKUP
ENTRANCE BOOTH
• CONGESTION POINT
DIAMOND #1, DIAMOND #2
• WELL CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED
• LOCATED TOO CLOSE TO ACCESS ROAD
• RELOCATE BLEACHERS AWAY FROM ROADWAY
• DIRT INFIELDS
• RETAIN PRESENT LOCATION, IF POSSIBLE
• INFORMAL ROADWAY USED FOR ACCESS TO BALL DIAMOND
AUXILLARY ROADWAY
• NOT OFTEN UTILIZED
• COULD BECOME A PRIMARY ACCESS ROUTE TO WEST PART OF THE SITE
SEMI - OPEN AREA
• FAIRLY DENSE TREE AND SHRUB COVER IN PLACES
• ROUGH TERRAIN
• LOW POINTS WITH POOR DRAINAGE
• NOT UTILIZED
DEMOLITION DERBY TRACK
• SELF-CONTAINED IN A FAR CORNER OF THE PARK
• ACCESS PROBLEMS (?)
• REQUIRES SOME SITE / TRACK IMPROVEMENTS TO BETTER SERVE AND PROTECT PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS
RODEO GROUNDS
• ACTIVITY AREA IS LOCATED WITHIN THE CENTRAL PART OF THE INFIELD
• CORRALS AND FENCEWING CONSTRUCTED OF METAL
• ROOM FOR EXPANSION
• ANIMAL ACCOMMODATION AREA SHOULD BE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY
BLEACHERS
CONCESSION AREA
• WINDOWLESS, VANDAL PROOF BUILDING
• CONCENTRATED PEDESTRIAN USE AREA
• USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A PORTABLE TENT FOR OUTDOOR GROUP GATHERINGS AND SOCIALS
• COULD USE SOME HARD SURFACING AND LANDSCAPING TO BETTER DEFINE THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS AND TO MAKE IT MORE ATTRACTIVE TO THE USERS
OPEN FIELD AREA
• PRESENTLY THE PRIMARY USE OF THIS AREA IS TO ACCOMMODATE AN ANNUAL MIDWAY
• AN AREA FOR ANY MAJOR FACILITY EXPANSION
• ADDITIONAL FACILITIES WOULD HAVE TO BE INTEGRATED INTO THE SITE TO ACCOMMODATE EXISTING USES
• THE TERRAIN IS GENERALLY LEVEL AND WELL DRAINED
• VEGETATIVE COVER CONSISTS OF GRASS AND CLOVER
C. N. R. RIGHT-OF-WAY
• SOUTH BOUNDARY
• ACCESS AND EXPANSION CONSTRAINT
HORSE RACING TRACK
• LITTLE UTILIZED AT THE PRESENT TIME
• PRIOR TO USE TRACK SURFACE WILL REQUIRE SOME IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE
SOUTH ROADWAY
• ROADWAY NOT WELL DEFINED
• NO FORMALIZED PARKING AREAS
• THE RACE TRACK & RODEO AREAS SHOULD BE SERVED VIA THIS ROUTE
• ROADWAY SHOULD BE WIDE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE LARGER VEHICLES
• A TURN-A-ROUND AREA IS NEEDED AT THE WESTERN EXTREMITY
• POTENTIAL EXPANSION AREA
• MUST BE INTEGRATED WITH SURROUNDING USES
• MAINTAIN TREE AND VEGETATIVE COVER
• NATURAL VEGETATIVE COVER PROVIDES SCREENING AND ENCLOSURE
• ADDITIONAL PLANTING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TO IMPROVE AND ENHANCE THE EXISTING SITUATION
0 5 10 20 30 50 METRES
SCALE 1 : 750
NORTH

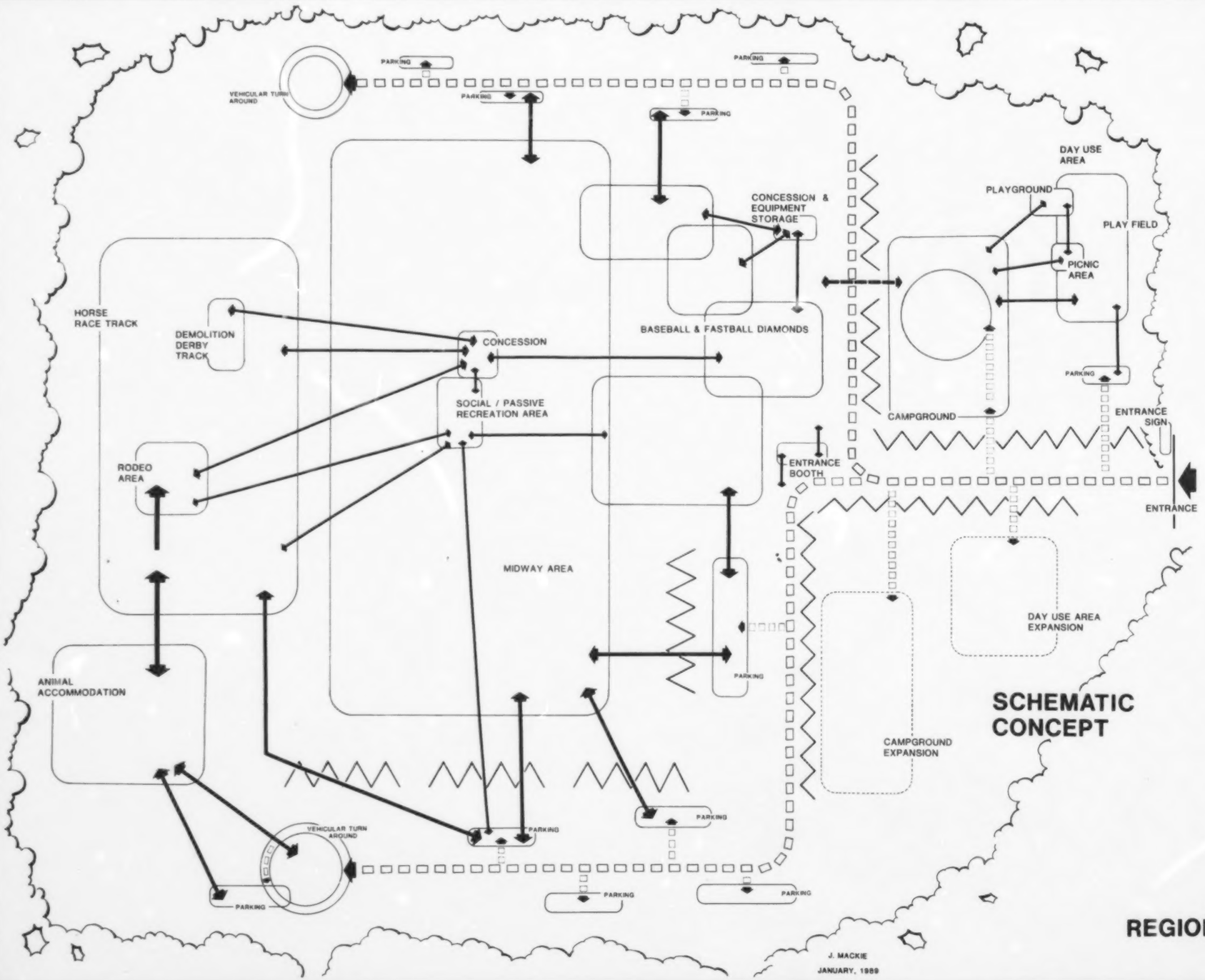
REDWATER RECREATION GROUNDS

REDWATER, ALBERTA

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

J. MACKIE
JANUARY, 1980

EDMONTON METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



PROGRAM OF USE

- DAY USE AREA
  - PLAY FIELD
  - PICNIC AREA
  - PLAYGROUND
- CAMPGROUND
- BASEBALL / FASTBALL DIAMONDS
- HORSE RACE TRACK
- RODEO GROUNDS
- DEMOLITION DERBY TRACK
- MIDWAY AREA
- ANIMAL ACCOMMODATION
- PASSIVE / SOCIAL RECREATION AREA
  - EATING AREA (TENT)
  - HORSESHOE PITS
  - BARBEQUE PIT
- ENTRANCE BOOTH
- CONCESSIONS
- CIRCULATION & PARKING
- CAMPGROUND & DAY USE AREA EXPANSION

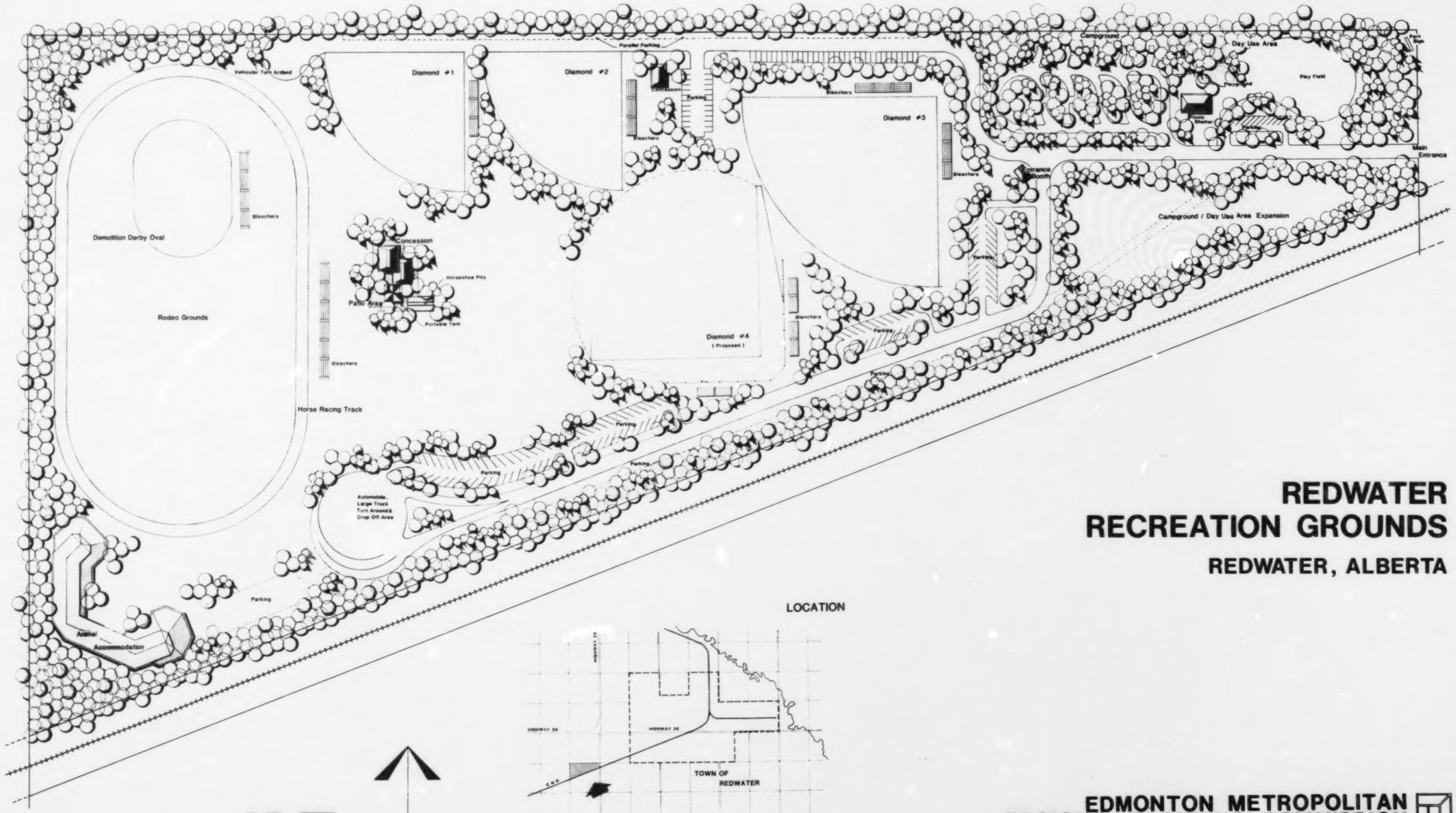
REDWATER RECREATION GROUNDS

REDWATER, ALBERTA

SCHEMATIC CONCEPT

J. MACKIE
JANUARY, 1989

EDMONTON METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION



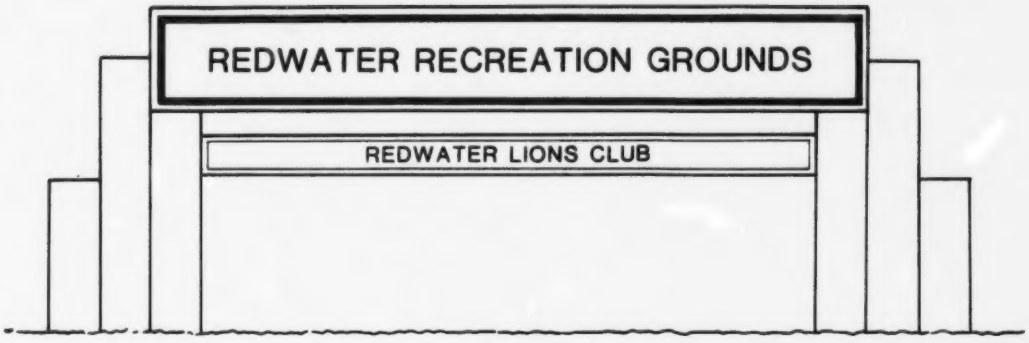
REDWATER RECREATION GROUNDS

REDWATER, ALBERTA

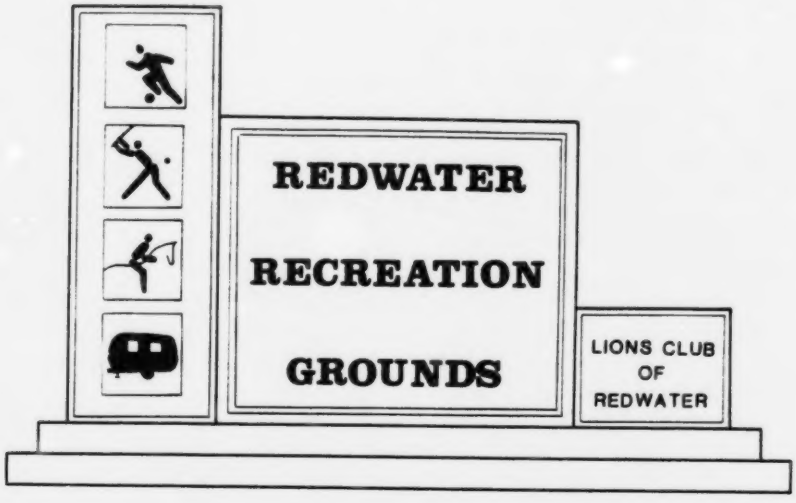
EDMONTON METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Entrance Sign Design

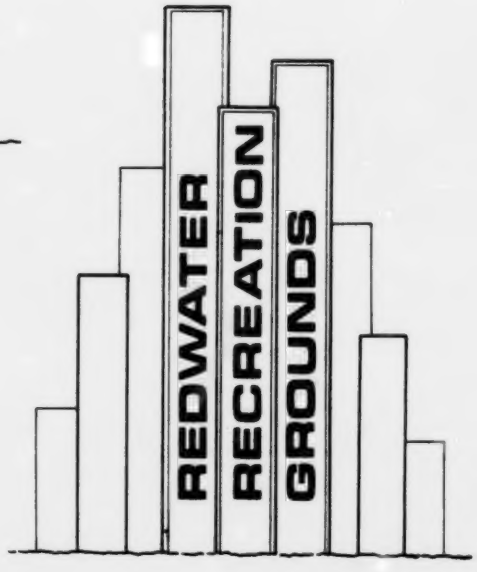
PART III

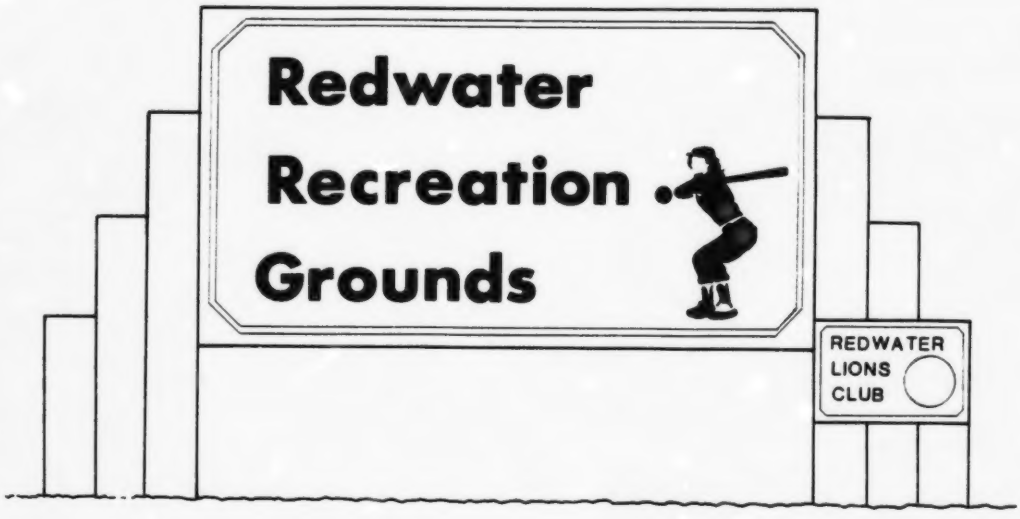

REDWATER RECREATION GROUNDS
REDWATER LIONS CLUB

REDWATER
RECREATION
GROUNDS
REDWATER LIONS CLUB


REDWATER
RECREATION
GROUNDS
LIONS CLUB
OF
REDWATER

REDWATER
RECREATION
GROUNDS


REDWATER
RECREATION
GROUNDS


Redwater
Recreation
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REDWATER
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REDWATER
RECREATION
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